

10-21-03 2632
Docket No. 36777.00400

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hajime NODA et al.
Serial No. : 09/881,613 **Group Art Unit** : 2632
Filed : June 14, 2001
For : *Client Information Collecting Method, Client Information
Providing Method, Point Assigning Method, Merchandise
Information Providing Method and Merchandise Information
Collection Apparatus Using Network*

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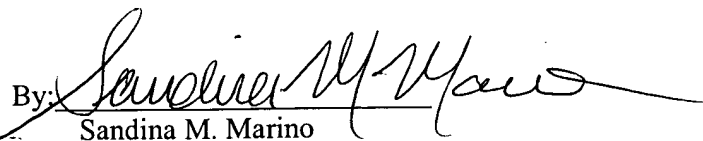
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I hereby certify that this :

Information Disclosure Statement; Information Disclosure
Citation (Form PTO 1449) with copies of 1 cited reference and
translation thereof; and return receipt postcard.

are being deposited with the United States Postal Service via First Class Mail in an envelope
addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450 on:

August 26, 2003

By: 
Sandina M. Marino

Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP
One Chase Manhattan Plaza
New York, New York 10005



PATENT
Docket No.: 36777.00300

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Hajime NODA et al.

Serial No. : 09/881,613 Group Art Unit : 2632

Filed : June 14, 2001 Examiner : TBA

For : *Client Information Collecting Method, Client Information Providing Method, Point Assigning Method, Merchandise Information Providing Method, and Merchandise Information Collection Apparatus Using Network*

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, may be deemed to be pertinent to the above-identified application and are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. ☒ For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:

Office Action dated June 6, 2003 filed in corresponding Chinese Application Serial No. 01118835.9

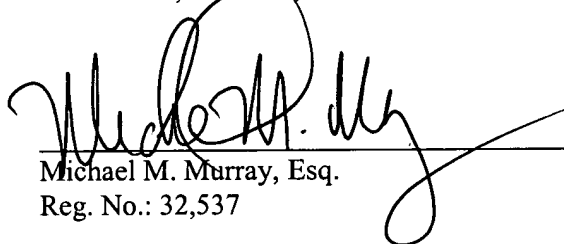
2. ☐ For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is being incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.
3. ☐ Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office in the prior [] Continuation, [] Divisional or [] Continuation-In-Part application under 37 C.F.R. §1.60, U.S. Serial No. _____, filed _____.

4. ☒ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
- ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application.
 - ☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.
 - ☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.
5. ☐ No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.
6. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.
 - ☐ Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3250 Order No. 36777-00300. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.
7. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:
- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
 - b. the attached petition requesting consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement; and
 - c. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.
8. ☐ A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
- a. 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue;
 - b. 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(5), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue.

c. The fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) is paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. ☒ I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- ☐ I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
10. ☐ A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1).
- ☐ Charge the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i)(1) to Deposit Account No. 13-3250. Order No. 36777.00000 A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.
- ☐ The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3250. Order No. 36777.00300 A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,
MILBANK, TWEED, HADLEY & McCLOY LLP

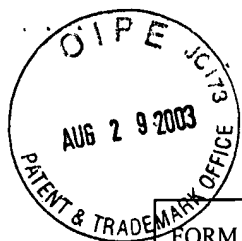


Michael M. Murray, Esq.
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August 26, 2003

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Atty Docket No. 36777.00300	Serial No. 09/881,613
	Applicant: Hajime NODA et al.	
	Filing Date: June 14, 2001	Group Art Unit 2632

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Papers, Etc.)

			Office Action dated June 6, 2003 in corresponding Chinese Application No. 01118835.9 and English translation

EXAMINER**DATE CONSIDERED**

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.